



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

I. EXCAVATIONS AT LISHT

THE excavation of the pyramid of Amenemhat I, resumed this season after an interval of six years, presents an extraordinary tangle of archaeological problems, and in view of the fact that so much time has elapsed since the last report was published in the BULLETIN, it would perhaps be well to take stock of these problems before going on to a detailed account of the present year's work.

early occupation was not a long one, and with its abandonment the site became real desert once more, barren even from the archaeologist's point of view, and so it remained for some fifteen hundred years.

Not until 2000 B. C. does the history of the site really begin. Then it was that Amenemhat I, shifting his capital from Thebes to some point as yet undiscovered near the mouth of the Fayum, the better



FIG. 2. A GROUP OF HOUSES BUILT AGAINST THE SIDE OF THE PYRAMID

The story of the site, briefly, is this. In 3500 B. C., or thereabouts, the ground now covered by Amenemhat's pyramid and temple was occupied by a village or settlement of the semi-nomadic predynastic people. No trace of the actual village remains, but the pottery and fragments of stone vases that we find among the later antiquities are clear proof of its existence. The cemetery in which its inhabitants were buried is still to seek: it lies in all probability under ground now cultivated, for there is evidence that in this particular spot the cultivable area has made considerable inroads upon the old line of desert edge. This

to control the northern end of his newly acquired kingdom, selected this particular spot for his future place of burial, and set on foot the construction of his pyramid. It was an ambitious monument that his architects projected, too ambitious to be carried to completion in the strenuous years that remained to him of his comparatively short reign, and we get as a result the first stumbling-block to the modern excavator of the site, in the shape of a considerable modification of the original plan. The site chosen was not a good one from the builders' point of view, for it sloped rapidly away both eastwards and southwards. As

far as the pyramid itself was concerned, the leveling question was solved without much difficulty by cutting away on the high sides and building up on the low ones; but for the temple and causeway, which had to be constructed on the east side, where the gradient was steepest, the problem would have been much more acute, involving in places foundation chambers at least ten feet deep. We say "would have" advisedly, for the work was never brought to completion, the idea of a temple on the same level as the pyramid being abandoned at

temple which seem at variance with both. The foundation courses of its walls, for instance, are composed largely of reused blocks, many of which bear the cartouches of Amenemhat himself. Amenemhat may have used blocks intended for another building which for some reason were scrapped, but it is curious nevertheless. Still more curious is the fact that when we excavated the temple we found that Amenemhat's granite altar had been carefully removed without the limits of the temple proper and placed in the narrow corridor



FIG. 3. GROUP OF HOUSEHOLD GODS
VILLAGE PERIOD

some period during the construction in favor of a smaller one on a much lower level.

The responsibility for this change of plan we cannot fix with certainty. It is possible, of course, that Amenemhat himself, feeling his end approaching, and dreading the idea of death with a tomb still uncompleted, instructed his architects to hurry on the work at all costs; or again, and this perhaps is more likely, it may be that he died while the work was still in its early stages, and that his son and successor let filial piety go by the board in his anxiety to make a start on his own monument. Which, if either, of these theories is the correct one we have not at present sufficient evidence to determine. Indeed, there are puzzling points in connection with this low-level

between the north temple wall and the brick enclosure wall, in front of a painfully inadequate false door of limestone; whereas the big granite false door, which to all appearance was made to be used in connection with the altar, was found in front of the entrance to the pyramid, on the north side. One is tempted to believe sometimes that the pyramid and temple were usurped by some later king, and it is very tantalizing that the presence of subterranean water has so far prevented us from getting into the burial chamber, where we might hope to find something conclusive in the way of evidence. At present we have nothing but theory to go upon, and though we have argued the matter at great length and in ever-increasing circles among ourselves and

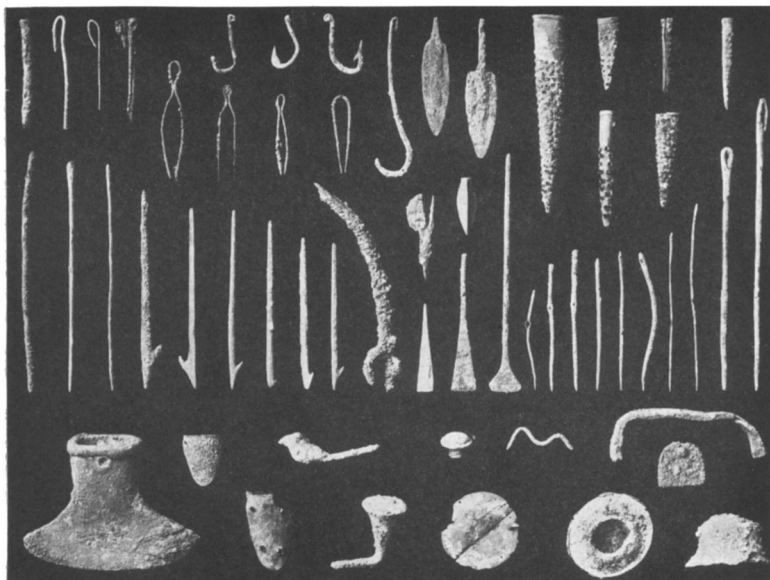


FIG. 4. GROUP OF COPPER IMPLEMENTS
VILLAGE PERIOD

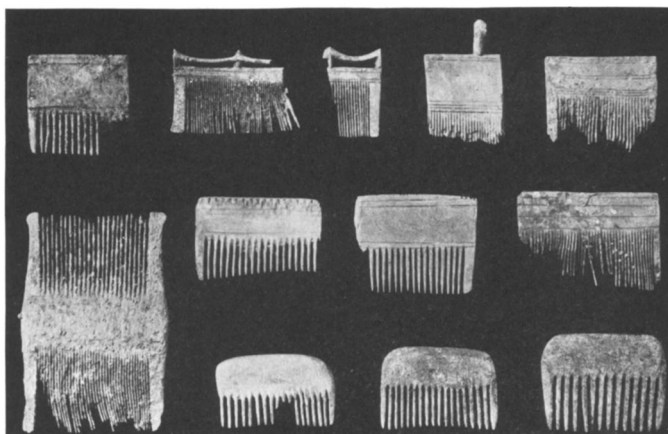


FIG. 5. GROUP OF WOODEN COMBS
VILLAGE PERIOD



FIG. 6. CLEARING DOWN TO XII
DYNASTY LEVEL



FIG. 7. VIEW AT END OF WORK, TAKEN FROM
SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PYRAMID

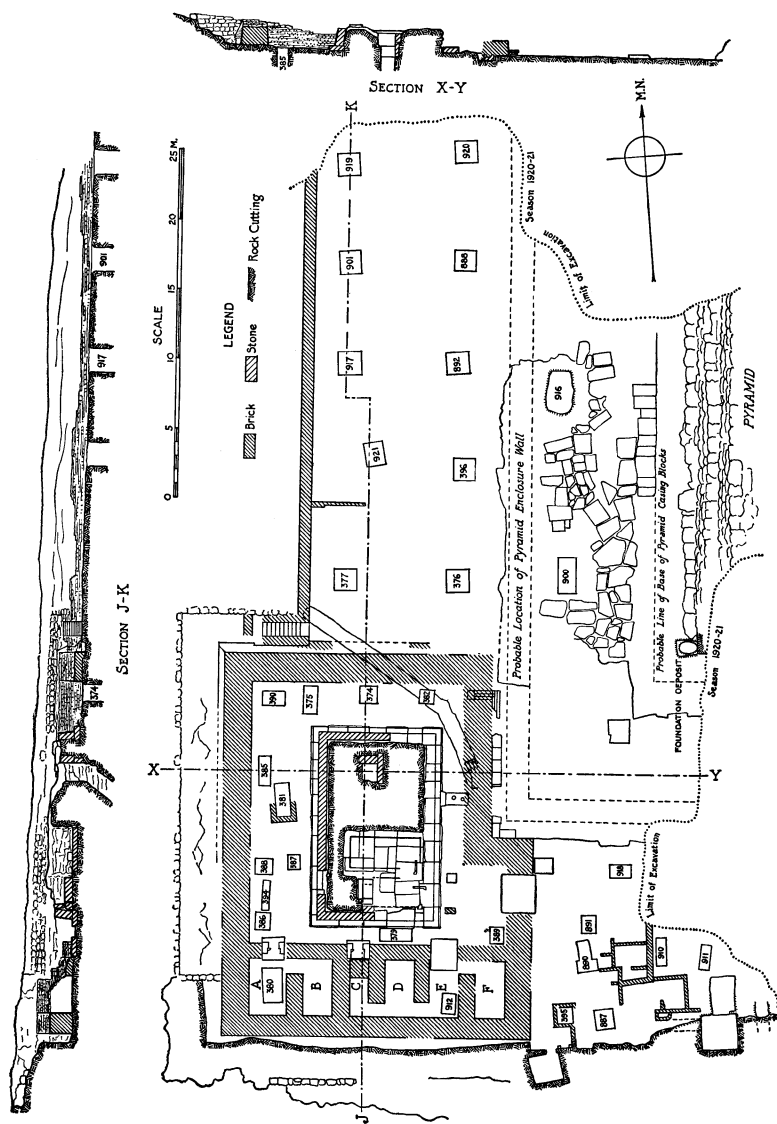


FIG. 8. GROUND PLAN OF EXCAVATION ON WEST SIDE OF PYRAMID
AT XII DYNASTY LEVEL

with visiting archaeologists, there is so far only one conclusion that any two of us have ever managed to agree upon, and that is that the third man's theory is wrong.

In addition to this main problem of the reconstructed temple there are a number of minor complications. One is introduced by the fact that Amenemhat, in the construction of his own monument, had laid heavy toll on those of his predecessors, the core of the pyramid being largely composed of inscribed temple and tomb blocks of the Old Kingdom, stolen presumably

temple of Amenemhat, reused as foundation blocks for the temple; (3) actual temple relief; (4) temple relief copied from Old Kingdom models.

To return to the history of the site. Amenemhat died and was buried, and his successor, Senusert I, after building himself a larger and more magnificent memorial about a mile and a half to southward, in due course followed him. Round the two pyramids sprang up the tomb-superstructures of the courtiers and officials, each as near to the royal monument as its owner



FIG. 9. FOUNDATION DEPOSIT AT SOUTHWEST CORNER OF PYRAMID

from either Dahshur or Sakkara. These early pieces of relief, thrown out of position at the time of the destruction of the pyramid, are found scattered over the whole ground, and they are in some cases extremely difficult to distinguish from the later relief which really belongs to the site. This will be readily understood when we explain that it was Amenemhat's fad, when making his own temple relief, deliberately to revert to the style of his ancestors, and that in some cases he made actual line for line copies of existing Old Kingdom models. We have thus, inextricably mixed and hard to distinguish, the following four groups of relief to deal with: (1) Old Kingdom relief, reused in the construction of the pyramid; (2) relief from the earlier

dared, and in as commanding a position as he could compass: round them again were grouped the graves of their families, their servants, and their descendants, increasing and ever multiplying as one generation succeeded another, till by the end of the XII dynasty the ground within a large radius of either pyramid was literally honeycombed with burial pits. Next came the fall of the dynasty and the ascendancy of a people to whom the name and prestige of the Amenemhats and Senuserts counted as nothing. Straightway plundering began. By the XIV dynasty at latest, any pretense of guarding the necropolis was abandoned, and the site was definitely given over to the tender mercies of the tomb robber and the quarrier. With poetic

THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION 1920-21

justice the pyramid of Amenemhat, itself constructed so largely of stolen blocks, seems to have suffered most. Systematically and thoroughly the destroyers set to work, carrying away its stones for building or burning them up for lime—to such purpose that within two or three hundred years of the king's death it had lost all semblance of pyramidal form, and been reduced to a mere shapeless mound of crumbling stone. A village sprang up

but small heed to the affairs of the outside world. Thothmes and his successor kings might carry war into the far parts of the earth and found and throw away an empire—what did they care? Akhnatōn might change the state religion and decree a new heaven and a new earth—what was that to them and their little village gods? There is nothing in this world quite so conservative as an up-country Egyptian village, and there are many still existing



FIG. 10. FOUNDATION DEPOSIT
CLEARED

among the ruins. Possibly a mere group of quarriers' huts to begin with, this village grew to a considerable town, spreading over the whole of the northern end of the site, overlying and cutting into the earlier buildings, and even encroaching terrace-wise on the slopes of the ruined pyramid itself. Poor folk for the most part its inhabitants seem to have been, cultivating their little patches of ground, fishing a little, spinning and weaving a little, glass- and bead-making a little, and in their spare time burrowing for treasure in the burial-pits that underlaid their houses. In no essential did their lives differ from those of their descendants in the modern village, and, like the latter, they probably paid



FIG. 11. BRICK FROM FOUNDATION
DEPOSIT, SHOWING PLAQUE WITHIN

that were founded in the days of the first pyramid-builders. It is difficult, indeed, to see why such a village ever should come to an end. For some reason this one did, after about a thousand years of activity, and with its disappearance the archaeological history of the northern end of the site comes to an end. There were later cemeteries in the southern end, in the neighborhood of Senusert's pyramid, but they do not concern us here. In any case it is quite time to turn to the results of the present year's work.

In the excavations of former years, notes of which have already been published in the *BULLETIN*,¹ we had cleared the

¹April, July, and October, 1907; May and October, 1908; July, 1909; and October, 1914.

whole of the temple area on the east side of the pyramid, had laid bare a considerable part of the northern face of the pyramid, and had devoted the greater part of one season to the cemetery ground to the south. This year our main objective was the western side, on which we had reason to



FIG. 12. BLUE PASTE LION

believe that the tombs of the king's family might be situated. On this side of the pyramid the dumping problem is more acute than usual, for the ground is almost a level plateau. However, by taking advantage of a slight dip, and making a series of



FIG. 13. SERPENTINE STATUETTE

T's at the end of the dump, we succeeded in keeping it within manageable proportions. In the earliest stage of the work, the laying of the railway, only a handful of men could be used, but later on, when the line was in full running order, upwards of three hundred men and boys were steadily employed. Here as everywhere else on this end of the site, we had only to scratch the ground to come on house-walls of the later village, and though they were a nuisance from one

point of view, in that they delayed us from getting right down to the primary object of our search, they did furnish the work with that peculiar note of human interest which tombs, however rich and exciting, must inevitably lack. In figure 2 we have a group of village houses, built, as the photograph shows, right up against the side of the ruined pyramid. Figure 1 gives a view of a single house, the one in the foreground of the large photograph, seen from the entrance. This particular house has a stairway at the side of it, leading either to an upper story or to another house on a higher level of the pyramid slope. Nothing intrinsically valuable was found in any of these houses, but the leavings and losings of a village, even a poor one such as this, are a veritable mine of information when we come to try to work out the details of the daily life of its inhabitants, and we collected an enormous amount of miscellaneous material. See, for example, figure 4, in which are grouped a number of copper tools and other objects—nails, tweezers, fishhooks and harpoons, lance- and arrow-heads, rasps, needles, axe-head, etc.—and figure 5, a group of wooden combs. Flint implements of all varieties were there in great profusion, and, among other classes of material, we may mention spindles, loom-weights, weaving implements and parts of looms, net-sinkers, drill-caps, plumb-bobs, weights, flint-hammers, corn-grinders, parts of lamps, wooden mallets, baskets, and sieves. Occasionally a more unusual object would turn up. Beneath the floor of one house, for instance, there was an enormous lump of glass, about five inches in diameter, and in another house there was a large piece of coral, brought back as a curiosity, presumably, by some seafaring member of its family. In many of the houses there seems to have been a shrine, in which was placed a rough limestone figure of the household god (see fig. 3). The projecting piece of wall in the foreground of figure 2 may very well be a shrine of this nature, and in a house on another part of the site there was a free-standing altar, with the lower half of a limestone stela still in position upon it.

THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION 1920-21

It is unfortunate that so many of these house walls should have to be destroyed; unfortunate but inevitable, as it is the only way to get at the earlier remains that lie beneath them. With them have to go also the brick silos which abound in this, as in other parts of the site, and which add a further complication to a problem that is quite sufficiently involved already. This year they fortunately supplied some new and rather interesting evidence with regard to their use and date. Some of them certainly belong to the houses, being used as

number of loose bones in a small rush bag, and thrown carelessly in among the remains there were large palm-fiber bags in which the parcels had apparently been carried. The individual bones, moreover, were in many cases broken, some were blackened with fire, and others were broken or chopped in half, so that the marrow could be extracted. In these particular silos there were a number of glaze amulets, mostly sacred eyes, which may be XX dynasty in date, but which could not in any case be later than XXII dynasty.



FIG. 14. SERPENTINE STATUETTE ON
LIMESTONE TABLE OF OFFERINGS

receptacles for corn, firewood, etc.; others most certainly do not, for their openings are on a different level from that of the houses, and in some cases they deliberately cut through their walls. Among these latter there were three which seemed at first sight to contain the mummied carcasses of sacred rams. Clearing a little farther, however, we discovered that though they might be rams they were neither mummified nor carcasses. Quite the contrary in fact, for there was indisputable evidence that before being buried the animals had been cut up, cooked, and eaten. The heads were wrapped up separately in cloth. The other bones were made up into little mixed parcels, half a jaw-bone, a couple of ribs, and a leg-bone perhaps in one parcel, carefully wrapped round with cloth or palm-fiber. In one case there were a

Clearing, planning, photographing, and noting the silos and village remains took a considerable time, and it was comparatively late in the season before we could get down to XII dynasty level, and decide the great outstanding problem of the season. Were we, or were we not, to find the tombs of the princesses in the place we believed them to be, and if we did, were we to be lucky enough to find in them a treasure comparable with that from Lahun, now in our jewelry room? (To avoid an anticlimax later on it will perhaps be better to make the statement here and now that we did find the princesses' tombs—four of them—but that they had all been cleared out by plunderers.) Figure 6 shows the work of clearing down to the lower level in progress; while 7, from the same point of view, shows the lower level fully cleaned.

We shall get a better idea of the photographs and of the lie of the land generally if we refer to the ground plan in figure 8.² We should notice, first of all, that the whole of this excavated area lay within the cutting that was made to level the ground for the construction of the pyramid. This cutting, shown in hatched outline on the plan, occurs also on the north side of

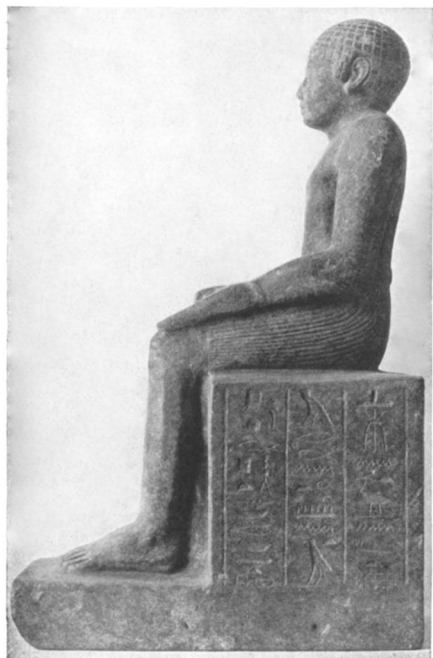


FIG. 15. GRANITE STATUE OF
MENTUHETEP

the pyramid, and, in conjunction with the built-up platform walls on its south and east sides, serves as a kind of outer enclosure wall to the royal monument. An area such as this should by rights be reserved strictly for the tombs of the king's immediate family, and in our earlier excavations we found that it had in fact been severely respected. What, then, of the large mastaba tomb, of white limestone, that dominates our photograph in figure 7? Its position is significant, but still more so is the fact that its superstructure, instead

²For the sake of clearness the late house walls and silos have been omitted from this plan.

of being built up in the ordinary way, consisted of a solid core of bed-rock, faced round with fine dressed blocks of limestone. Clearly this core was intentionally left at the time that the pyramid cutting was made, and we are forced to the conclusion that the mastaba formed an integral part of the original pyramid plan, and that it was intended for the burial of some close relative of the king. It was not, however, the queen's tomb. That we know for certain, for there were still remaining blocks of relief in the offering chamber, relief which failed, it is true, to give the name of the owner of the tomb, but which showed quite unmistakably that it was a man and not a woman that was being commemorated. There are a number of interesting features of construction in this mastaba, apart from the one already mentioned. At the south end there is an inscribed offering chamber, most of which has unfortunately been broken up by quarriers. The burial pit is cut through the rock core at its northern end, and communicates with the burial chamber by means of a long sloping passage. Underground water unfortunately prevents us from getting into this chamber at present: when we do we shall probably solve the vexed question of ownership. Beneath the corners there were foundation deposits, each one of the four consisting of twenty-four tiny pottery saucers and a tiny pottery pointed vase. Many of the stones of the foundation course were reused temple blocks of the Old Kingdom, confirmatory evidence this that it was the king himself who was responsible for the erection of the tomb. On one of them there was a procession of cattle, with an inscription above each animal showing the name of the Khufu farm to which it belonged. Around the whole tomb proper there was a brick enclosure wall, built close against the sides of the pyramid cutting, with a large entrance gate exactly opposite to the door of the offering chamber. On the south side the whole of the space between this enclosure wall and the stone wall of the mastaba was filled by a series of six vaulted chambers of brick, entered from the mastaba side by means of three limestone-

THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION 1920-21

framed doors. They were probably used as storage places for the ceremonial objects required in the service of the mastaba at the great yearly festivals. Within the enclosure, and just outside at the southeast end, there were a number of burial pits, made presumably for the family and servants; from one of them (No. 379) came the blue paste lion in figure 12. At the north end of the enclosure there are re-

apart, and arranged seemingly in pairs. The first two that we came to (376 and 377) and the four outer ones (921, 917, 901, and 919) were roughly constructed and contained a number of tiny burial chambers, as many as sixteen going to one pit. The other four (396, 892, 888, and 920) were well-cut pits, and each of them gave access, at a depth of about ten meters, to a single large chamber on the pyramid side.

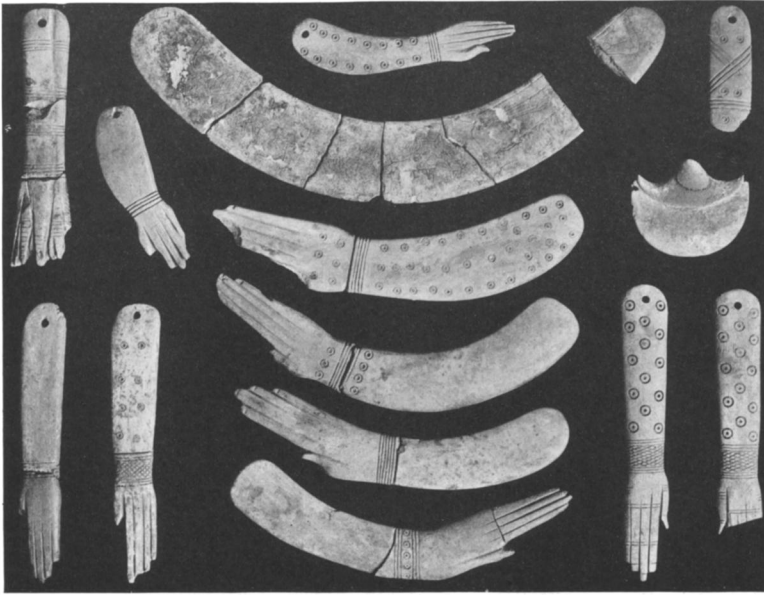


FIG. 16. GROUP OF IVORY WANDS

mains of two independent systems of drainage.

Turning our backs to the mastaba now, and following the course of the excavations to the north, we find, just outside the northwest corner of the enclosure wall, a stairway leading from XII dynasty pavement level to the high ground above the cutting (see also fig. 7). At this point the cutting narrows, and its face is masked, as far to the north as we have yet reached, by a brick retaining wall. Between this retaining wall and what we take to be the line of the inner enclosure wall of the pyramid there is a corridor about fourteen meters wide, in which there are a double row of burial pits, some five or six meters

The chambers were uniform in size and arrangement, and in the floor of each there was a deep recess to accommodate the sarcophagus. There can be very little doubt that these were the actual tombs of the princesses. All were completely plundered out, even to the breaking up and removal of the stone coffins, and the only thing that rewarded our search was a single heavy gold bracelet-bar, of the regular XII dynasty royal type. There are probably more of these tombs that we shall find when we continue our excavations farther north, and in this connection we may extract a certain amount of encouragement from the fact that an underground plunderers' passage has been cut straight

through the rock, to connect all four of this year's burial chambers, and that this passage stops off short in the chamber of Pit 920. The multiple burial pits are curious. The only explanation we can think of is that they were made to accommodate the servants of the princesses, buried near their mistresses to continue their services in the new world. There were two other pits (900 and 916) within the line of the pyramid enclosure wall. These, owing to the poor quality of the

than a chance that it might provide us with some new piece of historical evidence. The hole containing the deposit, oblong at the surface and oval below, was covered by a roughly dressed slab of limestone (see fig. 9), and filled with clean white sand. This cleared away, the actual deposit (fig. 10) was laid bare, consisting of an ox-skull, six roughly shaped bricks of clay, and a mass of small and very badly broken vases and saucers of pottery. Dull and uninteresting enough in all conscience at first

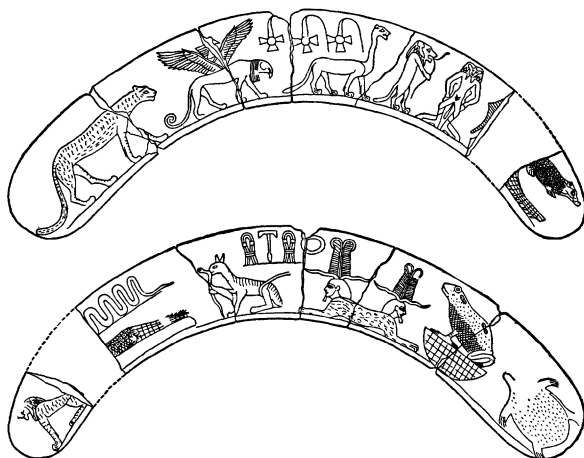


FIG. 17. BACK AND FRONT OF AN IVORY
MAGICAL WAND

rock in which they were excavated, could not be finished without running a serious risk of killing some of our workmen, but we got far enough to see that they too were made for multiple burials. Were they intended for servants of the king himself?

A considerable section of the actual pyramid base was laid bare, and we may mention, as an illustration of the terribly systematic destruction that has taken place, that not a single casing-stone was left. In the course of this clearing we came upon the most interesting archaeological find of the whole season's work—the foundation deposit that lay beneath the southwest corner. Pyramid foundation deposits are rare at the best of times: on the present site, with its bewildering jumble of half-solved problems, such a find had a peculiar importance, for there was more

sight, but in reality very much the reverse, for the bricks, crushed and cracked by the heavy weight that had rested upon them, came to pieces as they were being lifted out of the hole, and revealed the fact that each contained a plaque (fig. 11), inscribed with the name of the king, and, still more important, with that of his pyramid. Two of the plaques had been of copper, two of faience, and two of limestone. Of the last, one was missing, that from the brick on the lowest level nearest to the ox-skull. It could not have been stolen by the workmen, for I did the final clearing myself and lifted everything out of the hole with my own hands. Moreover, the hole in the brick it had occupied was full of hard, tightly packed sand, so hard that it needed scraping with a knife to remove it. The cast of its inscription was clearly visible on the

THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION 1920-21

clay. The brick must have come in half while it was being deposited, and the plaque stolen by the XII dynasty builder.

The inscription on these plaques is interesting. First comes the name of the king, then that of the pyramid, *Isut-kbau*,

In addition to this clearing of the west side we also excavated a considerable area of town and cemetery on the south side of the pyramid, and this we have left ourselves very little space to describe. One of the houses demands special notice, for it

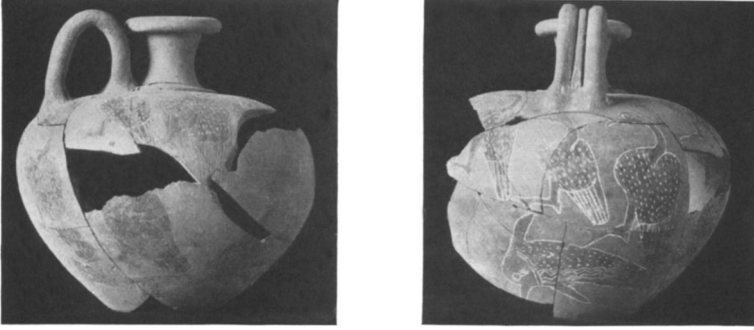


FIG. 18. PAINTED VASE

and finally the pyramid sign as determinative. The curious thing is that we knew, or thought we knew, that the name of this pyramid was *Ka-nefer*. There is a stela in the Louvre dedicated to a man who was priest of the *Ka-nefer* pyramid of Amenem-

had apparently been used as a glaze factory. In one of the rooms there was a large stone sunk in the floor which had evidently been used as a kneading place for the powdered limestone and water which formed the basis of the object to be



FIG. 19. LIMESTONE WEIGHT WITH TITULARY OF SENUSERT I

hat, and Sinuhe, in the story of his life, tells us that he acted as "Guardian of the King's Harim" in the pyramid city of *Ka-nefer*. How are these facts to be reconciled? Was our new name the name of the pyramid proper, whereas *Ka-nefer* was that of the whole pyramid district? Or does the name *Isut-kbau* belong to the foundation deposits themselves? Another puzzle to add to our lengthening list. The form of the name, which may be translated "The places of the appearances (or risings) of Amenemhat," is strange, and unlike that of any other pyramid.

glazed. In an adjoining room there was a kiln, unfortunately in very bad state of preservation; and, scattered all over the house and for a considerable distance outside it, there was an enormous amount of "biscuit," some quite rough and some more or less shaped, several sandstone rubbers, thousands of beads, and a quantity of other miscellaneous material.

Upwards of a hundred XII dynasty burial shafts were cleared, all anciently plundered, but whereas in some cases they had been stripped to the last bead, in others there still remained a considerable amount

of valuable material. In one was found the small serpentine statuette in figure 13, and in another a similar statuette, set into a limestone table of offerings (fig. 14). In another pit no less than eight whole or broken statues and statuettes were found, among them the granite statue of Mentu-

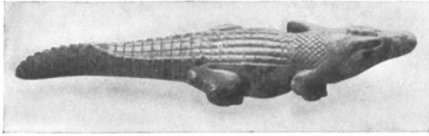


FIG. 20. IVORY CROCODILE

hetep in figure 15. It is hardly likely that these can all have belonged to the shaft in which they were found, especially as one of them was of the rough limestone village-god type. They must have been collected and deposited by some zealous person anciently. Ivory wands, both plain and inscribed, were exceedingly common in this group of pits, those shown in figure 16



FIG. 21. IVORY LION

all coming from a single shaft. Several were inscribed with beautifully cut figures of mysterious animals, such as the one shown in figure 17. There can be no doubt that wands such as these were amuletic in character, made to protect their owner from the fearsome creatures that he expected to encounter in his journey through the underworld. A particularly charming piece of ivory carving is the erect lion in figure 21, and in figure 20 we have a crocodile in the same material, so lifelike

that you feel he must surely swish his tail if you only watch long enough. The pottery vase in figure 18, A and B, is distinctly new in type, and must either be a foreign importation or have been made under foreign influence. It is a light yellowish pink in color, with a decoration of birds and dolphins (?) in dark red outlined with white, another curious feature about it being the fact that the handle drops to the shoulder again, instead of attaching itself to the rim. In the same pit there were a number of black incised handled vases of the Kahun type. Such were some of the finer objects from the pits: with the general mass of miscellaneous material from them—much of it very interesting—we have no space here to deal. It is surprising, in view of the repeated plunderings that they have undergone, that the pits should still produce so much, and imagination runs riot at the thought of what the original burials must have contained. Some day, at least we like to think so, we shall find a pit of this type that has never been plundered, with everything in position and nothing damaged, and then—.

There is still a group of material that we have not yet mentioned, and which will be a source of considerable difficulty when we come to publish a full account of the work, consisting of objects which might belong equally well to the later pits of the cemetery or the earlier end of the town. Position counts for very little on this site. The finest scarab of the whole season was found on clean desert surface by a loitering basket-boy, and it was by no means uncommon to find undoubted town material deep down in the filling of a burial shaft, or even in the chamber. Among these casual finds, as we may call them, there are three that need special mention—a limestone weight (fig. 19), all four of whose sides were inscribed with the name and titles of one of the Senuserts, probably the First; a slip of ivory inlay from a box, dedicated in inlaid hieroglyphs of carnelian to King Khety of the IX dynasty; and the lower part of a glazed tile, with a cartouchè of King Khenzer. The occurrence of these two kings on the Lisht site is interesting. With the exception of the predynastic

settlement material mentioned at the beginning of this article, this Khety box is the only pre-XII dynasty object that has yet been found, and it is very curious that the exception should belong to a king who was the hereditary enemy of the Theban house from which Amenemhat sprang. The presence of Khenzer at Lisht should help to settle his somewhat doubtful place in history. Some would place him among the Hyksos, but at Lisht we have not found a single Hyksos cartouche, whereas XIII dynasty names are comparatively common.

Our working staff consisted of Lindsley F. Hall, Albert B. Nixon, and myself. Mr. Hall was primarily responsible for survey and drawing—we owe figures 8 and 17 to his pen—and Mr. Nixon for account keeping and general secretarial work; but in camp a specialist can only specialize in his odd moments, and both took a hand in the thousand and one odd jobs—sorting, mending, cataloguing, packing, carpentering, workmen-physicking, and the like—that play so large a part in the archaeologist's daily round. A. C. MACE.

II. THE WORK OF THE TYTUS MEMORIAL FUND

THE tomb of Neferhotpĕ (No. 49) is now one of the darkest, the dirtiest, and the most disheartening among its many competitors at Thebes, black with smoke, festooned in cobwebs, stripped of its paintings over large parts of its surface, overlaid with a tenacious layer of plaster in others. Only here and there charming or perplexing designs shimmer through the dirt when light can be thrown in on the gloom.

Extra annoyance was added to these difficulties. The native occupants of the tomb were induced some years back by moral (?) suasion to retire outside the entrance, but had prospered there exceedingly and amounted now to man, wife, four or five children, a cow, four goats, eight sheep, a dog and a cat, half a hundred poultry, and billions of flies, etc. (the etc. not being negligible). Aghast at the prospect of being included in this menagerie, and using similar suasion again, I proposed to the man that he should be bought out. "Certainly," he agreed, "so far as I am concerned, but—ware the women-folk." This was clearly the ruse of an over-borne man, since his wife was meek-looking. So I returned next day with a light heart. I found the courtyard (fig. 1) a black mass of vociferating, gesticulating, furious females. These were the reversionary heiresses of the late owner assembled to see that no profit accrued to the solitary male heir in which they did not share, and that the particular lair which was associated with memories of their

father did not pass into infidel hands. Promptly relinquishing purchase, we pleaded for a month's lease of a few cubic meters of air and freedom from the family. Frantic opposition to this was finally overcome in a masterly way. Hurling the most voluble heiress violently against a wall, the owner concluded the bargain before her breath could amount to a caveat. Henceforward there was peace, but for the pathetic efforts of the crushed lady to build a high wall round the spot where the sainted man used to repose, and for the two potent agencies, flies and smells. Time in Egypt is nothing but an ineffective concept. The family *aura* left in the interior was vigorous enough after twenty years to render existence insupportable except to indurated senses. And, if flies in Egypt multiply timelessly by logarithms, those in Tomb 49 outdid their race in fecundity.

This apparently irrelevant prologue explains why the tomb has not been copied since fellahin dug themselves in, and may give an aspect of heroism to the enterprise of the Metropolitan Museum (heroism by proxy), exploding the idea that it consists of making aesthetic studies in the field or the library. It will serviceably remind us, too, that these same fellahin are the legitimate descendants, physical and otherwise, of the men and women whose figures, houses, occupations, merrymakings, and funerals are depicted within.

The date of the tomb is half its interest.